

Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church

FORT WAYNE INDIANA

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MAY, 1908

No. 7

Grace Reformed Church

East Washington St., between Barr and Lafayette

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, Pastor

Residence, 320 E. Washington St.

SABBATH SERVICES

Sabbath School.....	9:30 A. M.
Church Services.....	10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.
Y. P. S. C. E.....	6:45 P. M.
Junior Y. P. S. C. E.....	2:00 P. M.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday	7:30 P. M.

Pentecost Day, June 7th, will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of Grace church. We should make this a day memorable in the history of the church. It will also be the twentieth anniversary of the present pastorate. We have been planning and hoping to achieve great things on this anniversary day and year. One thing above all others we hoped to do, and shall make a strenuous effort to do, and by the united effort of the church we feel assured we can do; namely, make provisions for liquidating the remaining indebtedness upon the church. Some of our people have been quite impatient about this matter and we are heartily glad that they are becoming impatient and anxious to see something done. The pastor is ready for the work and will do all he can to push it to a finish. We believe we have a plan by which every cent of our indebtedness can be provided for, even though there is at present a stringency in money matters. What is needed is a heroic and united effort on the part of the whole church. Let everyone talk

with God about this matter and ascertain what he can and shall do. We should not only provide at once for our church debt, but raise a sufficient amount to give us a good start on an organ fund. The time has come when Grace church must do greater things, and we are abundantly able to do them. All that is wanting is the willingness and the united effort. The church is in great need of an organ; we should have had one long ago. Let us learn to know our possibilities and give ourselves to the Lord for greater things.

DO THE MEMBERS OF GRACE CHURCH WANT A CHOIR?

Some time ago the music committee, acting on the authority of the consistory, wrote a letter to the members telling them that we could no longer get free music and that we must have money to pay a choir. So far the treasurer, Mrs. Frank Leikauf, has received pledges for ninety dollars for the year, whereas the amount needed for one year will be about three hundred dollars. This includes pay for singers, leader and new music, etc. This balance must be raised if we want choir music. The red envelopes in the pews are for this purpose. If you have not handed in your subscription do so at once. This matter should have the earnest consideration of every member. Let us hear from you! Do you want a choir? What is your answer?

Music Committee.

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

AT REST

After an illness extending over a period of nearly eight months, Mr. C. F. Close departed this life Saturday morning, May 16, at about nine o'clock. He was born at Sandusky, Ohio, December 16, 1834. He was dedicated to the Lord in holy baptism in infancy, and at an early age was received into full membership with the Reformed church at Sandusky, Ohio. He spent the early part of his life in the place of his birth. When the Civil war broke out he was one of the young men who responded to the first call for 300,000 men. He enlisted at Cleveland, Ohio, September 16, 1861. He was a member of Company I, 141st Regiment of Ohio Volunteers. This regiment was mustered into service and assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. It saw some of the hardest fighting that was done during the war, and Mr. Close was in every engagement in which his regiment took part. At the close of the war he continued in the service until in November, 1865. There were originally 872 men in the regiment. When mustered out of service there were only 248 of this number left. When the war closed he returned to Sandusky, Ohio. He was married February 8, 1868, at Cleveland, Ohio, to Miss Lydia Schrey. His home life was happy and exemplary. In 1878 the family came to Fort Wayne. Upon their arrival here they identified themselves with the St. John's Reformed Church. Dr. Schaaf was the pastor of the congregation and was formerly their pastor in Sandusky. Later, in 1895, they changed their church home and came into Grace Church. During the last twenty-five years or more Mr. Close was almost continuously in the office of elder in the church. He was earnest and active in his Christian life, his counsel as a member of the church consistory was always good. He was quiet and unassuming in disposition, but his heart was stayed upon the Lord. His presence at

the church service was always an inspiration to the pastor. He was punctual in his attendance and was an attentive and appreciative listener to the Word. He had many very warm and admiring friends in the church, in the city, and among his comrades in the Grand Army posts.

During his prolonged illness he was patient and resigned to the will of the Lord. He had no fear of death. He had lived a life of humble trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, and into his hands he had fully committed himself. When he began to realize that his end was approaching he was fully resigned to whatever might be the will of the Lord. The end was calm and peaceful. The Psalmist says, "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace." Our brother and co-laborer in the Lord has gone to his long home. He will be missed in the home, in the church and among his friends everywhere. He has joined the great company of the redeemed on the other side. The last battle has been fought, the final march completed, the last roll call answered. The patriot soldiers, the honored citizen and Christian warrior has gone to his rest, and to receive his crown at the hands of the Great Judge. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

The wife, four sons, one daughter, two brothers and two sisters survive the deceased. The funeral services were held from Grace church on Tuesday afternoon, May 19. May the Lord speak words of peace and comfort to all who sorrow and weep.

Iris Evelyn, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bitner, died Saturday night, April 25th. She was aged eight months and twenty-six days. She came to gladden the hearts of parents and friends for a little while and then went to live with the angels. The Psalmist says: "As for man, his days are as grass:

as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth, for the wind passeth over it and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more. Like a fragrant spring flower, so this little one blossomed here for a few days, then it was transplanted to bloom in that land "where everlasting spring abides and never-withering flowers." The funeral service was held Tuesday afternoon, April 28. And a little child shall lead them. Isa. 11: 6.

MARRIAGES

Thursday afternoon, April 30, at the home of the bride on Columbia avenue, occurred the marriage of James T. Quin and Miss Grace A. Wertman, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Wertman. The ceremony took place at twelve o'clock, and was witnessed only by the immediate friends of the groom and bride. Mr. Quin is a very pleasant and congenial young man, the bride is well known to all the members of Grace church, and is highly esteemed by everyone. After the ceremony the guests were invited to the dining room, where they were served to an elaborate wedding dinner. In the afternoon and evening the bride gave a reception to her young friends in the city. Mr. and Mrs. Quin reside at 912 Lincoln avenue. The Visitor extends greetings and best wishes for the future welfare and happiness of these young people.

Sunday afternoon, May 17, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wickliffe, on Columbia avenue, John F. Gebert and Mrs. Lizzie E. Sarasizen were united in holy wedlock. Mr. and Mrs. Gebert reside on a farm nine miles east of the city. We hope for them a happy and prosperous wedded life.

Sunday, May 10th, was a great day for the Reformed church at Bluffton. It was the dedication day of their new church. For nearly a year past this church had been in process of building, and the people were waiting eagerly for

the day when it should be completed, and when they might open it for services. It is without doubt the most modern, handsomest and best equipped church in the Ohio synod. It is complete in every way. The entire cost of the church, including location, was about \$38,000. The first subscriptions given for the new building, including value of old church property, amounted to nearly \$25,000. This left a balance to be provided for on dedication day of over \$13,000. After having given as liberally as the people had done already it was no little undertaking to provide for the remaining indebtedness on the church. But where the people have a mind to work and their interests are in the work of the Lord, you may expect surprising things. So it was with the Bluffton people; when dedication day came their hearts and minds were set upon seeing their church debt provided for, and when the Sunday evening service came to a close the work was done and nobly done. It was an inspiration to see these people give. Rich and poor, each doing their best to reach the end. It was surprising to see the amounts given by the people, who have but very little of this world's goods to count on, except a purpose to put their hands to the work and earn money for the Lord. Such devotion and earnestness and liberality is seldom seen in a people, and this accounts for their success. With this same spirit any church can achieve wonders. It is not so much that churches lack ability, it is willingness and devotion they lack. There was great rejoicing when it was announced on Sunday night that the new church would be dedicated free from debt. The people in the church could scarcely realize that this was true, much less the people outside. The Bluffton church was organized about twenty-six years ago. It had a very humble beginning. Now it has grown to be a strong and flourishing church, with great possibilities before it. We rejoice with them in all their work and success.

Grace Church Visitor

REV. A. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher

Subscription Price, 25 cents per year

Mrs. Richards has moved from East Wayne street and now resides at 2326 Calhoun street.

Call on the new members in the church at your earliest convenience. They will be glad to see you.

St. Joseph Classis, and the Woman's Classical Missionary Society will meet at Colon, Mich., June 2 to 5.

Dr. Koblenz has purchased a property and is now located at 921 West Berry street, where he will be glad to see his friends and patients.

Our Easter communion was possibly the largest in the history of the church, and in every way the service was a great success. The singing was excellent and we had a large number of accessions to the church.

Mrs. Kate Certia recently purchased a very handsome pulpit pedestal for the church. We are sure the church fully appreciates this act of generosity. Is there not someone else in the church who will purchase the mate to this pedestal?

At our anniversary service Sunday morning, June 7th, an opportunity will be afforded for the reception of new members and the baptism of children. Have you any friends who have no church home and who are thinking of coming into the church? Speak to them about coming in on anniversary day.

The following persons were received into the church on Easter Sunday. In connection with the names we give the places of residence so that our people may know where to find these new members. Wilber Smith, 215 Baker street; Charles E. Crum, Mrs. Anna Crum, 818

Monroe street John W. Brewer, Mrs. Viola Brewer, Mrs. Catherine Romy, 35 Spy Run avenue Mrs. Nora Weller, 917 Monroe street; Mrs. Catherine Yeager, 1505 Franklin avenue; Mrs. Bertha Birely, Miss Berdie Shunk, 902 E. Jefferson street; Mrs. Catherine Saffen, 902 E. Jefferson street; Mrs. Daisy Trautman, 1327 Scott avenue; James Quin, 912 Lincoln avenue; Victor Guebert, Mrs. Maggie Guebert, 1927 Hanna street; Miss Anna B. Zellers, 823 Washington Blvd. West; William Botteran, Mrs. Mary A. Botteran, 511 Buchanan street; Earl Rogers, 1322 Winter street; Rollo Barbier, Marie Barbier, 2524 Lafayette street; Alice Saffen, 1429 Hugh street; Erma Ulmer, 1049 Wabash avenue.

Besides these there were others who came and took their places in the church again during the Easter services. We extend to all of these friends a very cordial welcome. We are happy to have them associated with us in the Lord's work and trust they may find a pleasant and profitable church home among us.

The pastor is organizing a Bible class of men in the Sunday School. We have felt the need of this in the church for a long time. We hope to have the co-operation of every man in the church. The men of other churches are interested in the work of the Sunday School and in Bible study. Why not our men also. We believe they are. The class will meet in the church auditorium every Sunday morning at the Sunday School hour, 9:30 to 10:30. Every man in Grace Church is to act as a committee of one to secure other men for the class.

The women of the fifth section will give the supper for the month of June on Thursday evening the 11th. This will be an anniversary supper. The ladies expect to have something out of the ordinary for this occasion. Every member of the church is invited to this supper.

april 19

RECENT BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Easter morning, Dorothy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shunk; Sunday afternoon, April 26, Frank Chester, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Woodworth; Sabbath morning, May 3rd, Cecil Hayden and Hazel Ruth Loretta, children of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Guebert.

John Knight recently spent a week in the city with his mother and friends. We are sorry that he did not come to remain permanently.

The general synod of the Reformed church convened Tuesday evening, May 19th, at York, Pa. Some very important business will come before the synod at this meeting. One of the most important subjects will be the union of the Reformed and Presbyterian churches.

Ed Chausse, residing on the Maysville road, about eight miles east of the city, came very nearly meeting with a very serious accident a short time ago. He accidentally shot himself. Fortunately it was only a flesh wound, though bad enough at that.

If you want your carpets cleaned and made to look as nice as new, ask G. F. Mercer to do the work for you. He is reasonable in his prices and does excellent work. You will find advertisement in The Visitor. His phone number is 6596 Green.

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Y. P. S. C. E. TOPICS AND LEADERS

May 24—Being a Christian at the Ballot
Box Ps. 28: 1-9. W. A. Hobson.

May 31—Home Missions in Alaska. Isa.
60: 11-12. Missionary Committee.

June 7—Songs of the Heart; What Is
True Penitence. Ps. 51.

IRVING BIRNER.

The Young Men's Committee held its monthly meeting in April at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Vordermark, on Walton avenue. There was a good attendance and the usual routine of business was transacted. Mr. and Mrs. Vordermark gave the young men a royal reception and before leaving their home served them to a delicious luncheon.

Mr. George Siebold and family have left the city and are living at Hamlet, Ind., a village about a hundred miles west of Fort Wayne. We were very sorry to have them leave, but Mr. Siebold secured a position there, which gives him a much better income than he was getting here, and this is why they made the change. We miss the whole family very much from Sunday School and church services. We hope before very long they will come back to the city.

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